

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 06560 221646Z

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SUBJ: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL JUNE 21, 1977: RESULTS

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 5144; (B) EC BRUSSELS 5491

1. SUMMARY: DURING THEIR JUNE 21 COUNCIL MEETING, THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS ISSUED A STATEMENT ON UGANDA AND DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING ISSUES: INFCEP; EURATOM/IAEA VERIFICATION; EURATOM-CANADA NEGOTIATIONS; MEDITERRANEAN POLICY AND GREEK ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS; CSCE; FISHERIES; AND THE EC REPLY TO CEMA (ALL REPORTED SEPTTEL). THE MINISTERS ALSO APPROVED AN EC MANDATE FOR MULTIFIBER AGREEMENT RENEWAL; A LETTER TO EFTA COUNCIL PRESIDENT
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 06560 221646Z

KREISKY; AND THE AGENDA FOR THE JUNE 29-30 EUROPEAN COUNCIL (ALL REPORTED BELOW). ON THE FRINGES OF THE MEETING, THE MINISTERS ALSO ENGAGED IN POLITICAL COOPERATION DISCUSSIONS (SEE SEPTTEL). END SUMMARY.

2. EUROPEAN COUNCIL AGENDA

THE MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS WOULD BE DISCUSSED DURING THE JUNE 29-30 EUROPEAN COUNCIL: DOWNING STREET SUMMIT FOLLOW-UP, WITH A STRESS ON NUCLEAR QUESTIONS; MIDDLE EAST (SEE SEPTTEL); ECONOMIC ISSUES (THE COMMISSION PROPOSAL FOR A COMMUNITY LOAN FACILITY, AND THE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE); CIEC POST MORTEM; IMPLICATIONS OF COMMUNITY ENLARGEMENT (RESULTS OF THE MAY 21-22 LEEDS CASTLE DISCUSSIONS); IMPROVING EUROPEAN COUNCIL PROCEDURES; EAST-WEST ISSUES, INCLUDING THE BREZHNEV VISIT TO PARIS; AFRICA, INCLUDING THE RESULTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE; CSCE; AND THE JOINT EUROPEAN TOURS.

3. REPLY TO KREISKY

THE COUNCIL APPROVED A REPLY TO BE SENT BY UK FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN (THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT) TO AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR BRUNO KREISKY (PRESIDENT OF THE EFTA COUNCIL OF MINISTERS). KREISKY WROTE TO OWEN IN HIS EFTA CAPACITY ON MAY 17 TO INFORM THE COMMUNITY OF THE RESULTS OF THE EFTA SUMMIT (REFTTEL) AND TO INVITE CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS. REFLECTING EC VIEWS ON THE DIFFERENCES IN COMPETENCE BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND EFTA, THE OWEN REPLY TO KREISKY EXPRESSES INTEREST IN THE RESULTS OF THE VIENNA SUMMIT BUT LIMITS ITSELF TO A CAUTIOUS ASSURANCE THAT WAYS IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BRUSSE 06560 221646Z

WHICH CONTACTS MIGHT BE INCREASED WOULD BE STUDIED. ACCORDING TO PERM REP SOURCES, THE FRENCH AND ITALIANS WERE THE STRONGEST OPPONENTS OF A FORTHCOMING RESPONSE TO KREISKY, WHILE THE BRITISH, GERMANS AND DANISH FAVORED A MORE POSITIVE REPLY.

4. MULTIFIBER AGREEMENT

ACCORDING TO COUNCIL AND PERM REP SOURCES, THE MINISTERS APPROVED AS AN "A-POINT" A MANDATE FOR RENEWAL OF THE MFA.

5. RELATIONS WITH ASEAN STATES

THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT THE EC SHOULD PROPOSE A MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF COREPER AND THE COMMISSION AND THE FIVE ASEAN AMBASSADORS IN BRUSSELS TO DISCUSS STRENGTHENING TIES BETWEEN THE EC AND THE ASEAN STATES. COREPER HAD EARLIER DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A "DIALOGUE" BETWEEN THE ASEAN COUNTRIES, THE NINE AND THE COMMISSION, SOMEWHAT ALONG THE LINES OF THE CURRENT EC/LATIN AMERICAN DIALOGUE. (SEE REF B).

COMMISSION OFFICIALS TELL US THAT THE COUNCIL HAS NOW
APPROVED ESTABLISHING SUCH A DIALOGUE IF ASEAN AGREES.

THESE OFFICIALS ADD THAT THE DIALOGUE WILL BE INFORMAL
AND FLEXIBLE, AND PROBABLY TAKE PLACE OVER LUNCH.
THE COMMISSION CONTINUES TO HAVE SERIOUS RESERVATIONS
ABOUT THIS PROPOSAL, BECAUSE THE LA DIALOGUE HAS NOT
BEEN PRODUCTIVE AND HAS TENDED TO CREATE FALSE
EXPECTATIONS. MORRIS

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